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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NOVA 99.76

e Application of:

Michael S. Dobres, Aidyn Mouradov and Hong Zhang

Serial No.: 09/911,588

Group No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: July 24, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: Transformation of Plants by Electroporation of Cultured Explants

I, Patrick J. Farley, Ph.D., Registration No. 42,524, certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On July 22, 2002

Patrick J. Farley, Ph.D. Registration No: 42,524

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to an Examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments. A Version with Markings to Show Changes Made is attached hereto.

08/01/2002 GGEBREGI 00000056 09911588

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144.00 OP

In the Specification

On page 2, please replace the first full paragraph with the following:

Another method involves immobilization of DNA on silicon fibers. The fibers are then vortexed in the presence of plant cells. The resulting mechanical disruption allows the fibers to pierce the cells and deposit DNA into the cells. See, e.g., US Patent 5,303,523.

